

ABSTRACT

A method for evaluating whether a material will allow bacteria to pass through the material comprising providing bacteria which are modified to produce a first detectable signal, placing the bacteria on a first side of the material being evaluated, and determining whether the first signal is present on a second side of the material. A method for the evaluation of a material to determine whether the material is susceptible to bacterial contamination or colonization comprising providing bacteria which are modified to produce a first detectable signal, exposing the material being evaluated to the bacteria and determining whether the first signal is present on the material.